

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics

**Developing a Research Base**

**Mathematics Education Research Catalyst Conference**

Goal:

To provide a forum for approximately 100 participants to plan a research agenda to determine the effects of standards in mathematics education.

Summary:

The planned September 2003 conference is set to allow a wide variety of individuals, including invitees outside the standard realm of mathematics education research, the opportunity to meet and discuss the types of research needed, methods by which it could be done, and audiences who would be reached by a research agenda on standards.

Purpose:

Much anecdotal evidence and some scientifically based research are available to determine the effect of standards on the mathematics education of students. The planned conference is a part of a continuing effort to examine the results of the publication of *Principles and Standards for School Mathematics* (NCTM, 2000). The conference is sponsored by the National Science Foundation in a grant to NCTM and directed by Dr. Joan Ferrini-Mundy, Michigan State University. Once the agenda is determined, a follow-up meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 2004 at the Research Presession of the Annual Meeting of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics in Philadelphia. It is expected that a proceedings of the catalyst conference will be published and made available to the community at large and will include a series of research briefs to direct thinking at the conference.

Accomplishments/Results:

The grant has been funded. Initial planning has begun. Announcements and applications for participation are being developed. Complete accomplishments and results will not be available for about a year.

Plans for the Next 12 Months:

A Catalyst Conference Steering Committee meeting will take place in April 2003. The Catalyst Conference announcement and call for applicants will be available in April. The Conference itself will take place in September. The follow-up will be in April 2004.